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Claims

What is claimed is:

1	 A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive
2	comprising the steps of:
3	receiving a command;
4	checking for a disk drive start command;
5	responsive to identifying said disk drive start command, checking a
6	no-start flag; and
7	responsive to identifying said no-start flag being set, returning an erro
8	code without starting said disk drive

- 2. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 1 includes the step of starting said disk drive only responsive to identifying said no-start flag not being set.
- 3. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 2 includes the steps of monitoring said disk drive to identify a disk drive fault.
- 4. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 3 includes the step responsive to identifying said disk drive fault, of checking whether said identified disk drive fault is a predefined dead device fault.
- 5. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 4 includes the step of responsive to identifying said predefined dead device fault, setting said no-start flag and storing said error code.
- 6. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of checking whether said identified disk drive fault is said predefined dead device fault includes the step of comparing a unit error code of said identified disk drive fault with a plurality of predefined dead device (DD) unit error codes (UECs) to identify a match.

- 7. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 1 further includes the steps of identifying a predefined dead device fault, setting said no-start flag, setting a no-load flag and storing said error code.
 - 8. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 7 includes the step responsive to receiving said command with said disk drive running and said transducer heads not being loaded, checking said no-load flag.
 - 9. A method for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 8 includes the step responsive to identifying said no-load flag being set, stopping said disk drive and returning said error code.
 - 10. Apparatus for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive comprising:

a disk drive controller; said disk drive controller responsive to receiving a disk drive start command, for checking a no-start flag; said disk drive controller responsive to identifying said no-start flag

being set, for returning an error code without starting said disk drive; and said disk drive controller for starting said disk drive only responsive to said no-start flag not being set.

- 11. Apparatus for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 10 wherein said disk drive controller for monitoring said disk drive to identify a predefined dead disk drive fault; and said disk drive controller responsive to identifying a predefined dead disk drive fault, for setting said no-start flag, and for storing said error code.
- 12. Apparatus for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive as recited in claim 10 wherein said disk drive controller responsive to identifying a predefined dead disk drive fault, for setting a no-load flag.

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13.	Apparatus for implementing intelligent spin-up for a disk drive		
as recited in claim 10 wherein said disk drive controller responsive to			
identifying said no-load flag being set with said disk drive running and			
transducer heads not being loaded, for stopping said disk drive and returning			
said error code.			

14. A computer program product for implementing intelligent spinup for a disk drive, said computer program product including a plurality of computer executable instructions stored on a computer readable medium, wherein said instructions, when executed by a disk drive controller in the disk drive, cause the disk drive controller to perform the steps of:

receiving a command;

checking for a disk drive start command;

responsive to identifying said disk drive start command, checking a no-start flag;

responsive to identifying said no-start flag being set, returning an error code without starting said disk drive; and

starting said disk drive only responsive to identifying said no-start flag not being set.

15. A computer program product for implementing intelligent spinup for a disk drive as recited in claim 14 wherein said instructions, when executed by a disk drive controller in the disk drive, further cause the disk drive controller to perform the steps of:

monitoring said disk drive to identify a predefined dead disk drive fault; and

responsive to identifying a predefined dead disk drive fault, setting said no-start flag, setting a no-load flag and storing said error code.

16. A computer program product for implementing intelligent spinup for a disk drive as recited in claim 15 wherein said instructions, when executed by a disk drive controller in the disk drive, further cause the disk drive controller to perform the steps of:

receiving said command with said disk drive running and transducer heads in said disk drive not being loaded; and

responsive to identifying said no-load flag being set, stopping said disk drive and returning said error code.